

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENT

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

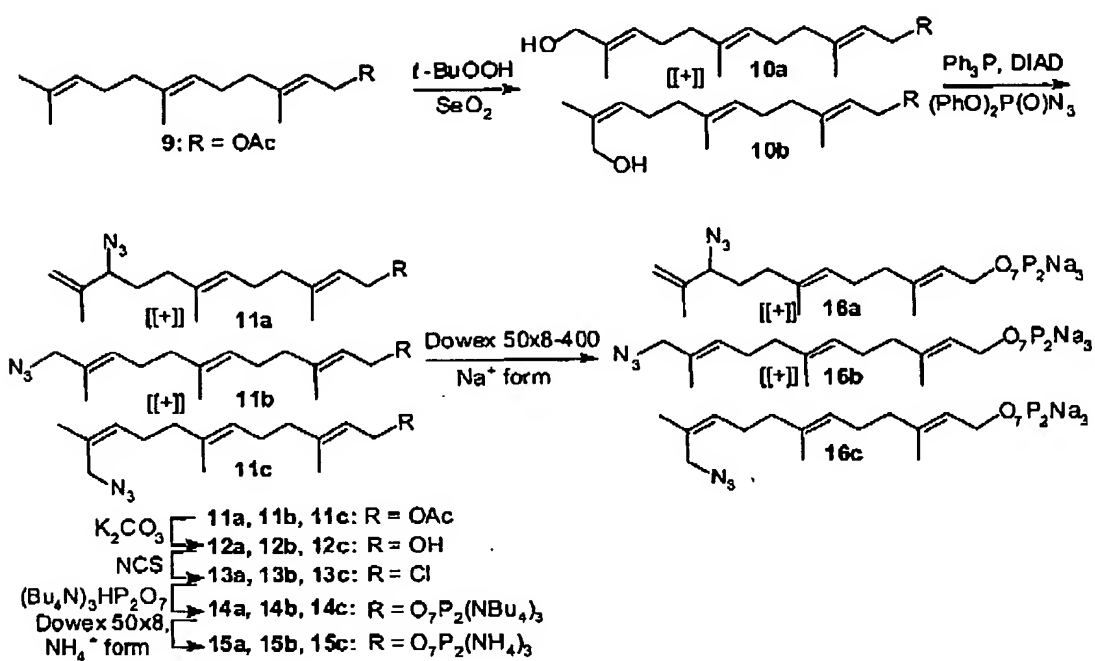
The reduction of organic azides to amines using phosphorus(III) compounds was first described in 1919 and is now known as the Staudinger reaction (Gololobov, 1992). Typically, aryl-substituted phosphorus reagents, e.g., triphenylphosphine, are used because of their chemical stability as alkylphosphines are pyrophoric and decompose violently in contact with water. ~~The reduction follows the course outlined in equation 1.~~ Reaction of azide 1 with P(III)-reagent 2, usually at room temperature, proceeds with the loss of nitrogen and initially generates adduct 3 that can be depicted as an iminophosphorane or an aza-ylide. Subsequent hydrolysis of 3 affords amine 4 and phosphine oxide 5.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

The reduction of organic azides to amines using phosphorus(III) compounds was first described in 1919 and is now widely known as the Staudinger reaction (Gololobov, 1992). Typically, aryl-substituted phosphorus reagents, e.g., triphenylphosphine, are used because of their chemical stability, as alkylphosphines are pyrophoric and decompose violently in contact with water. ~~The reduction follows the course outlined in equation 1, herein above.~~ Reaction of azide 1 with P(III)-reagent 2, usually at room temperature, proceeds with loss of nitrogen and initially generates adduct 3 that can be depicted as an iminophosphorane or an aza-ylide. Subsequent hydrolysis of 3 affords amine 4 and phosphine oxide 5.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

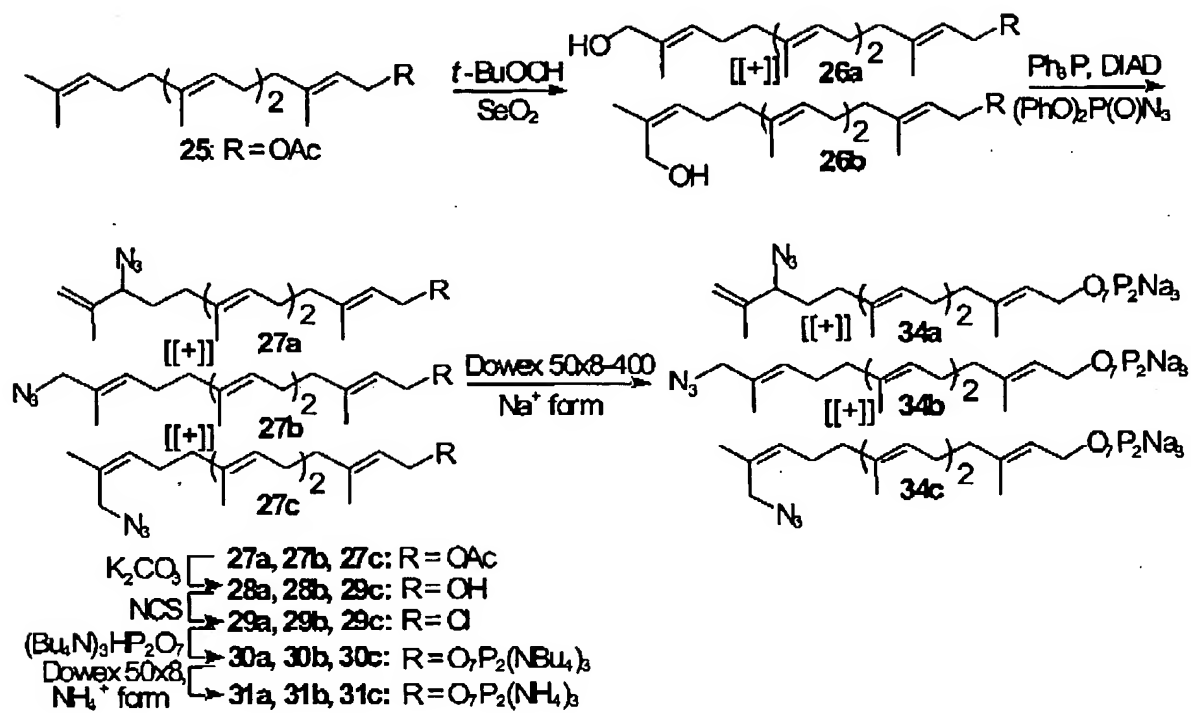
Scheme 1



25552032.1

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

Scheme 4:



25552032.1